

Sika language

The **Sika** or **Sikanese language** is a member of the Central Malayo-Polynesian branch of the Austronesian language family, and is spoken by around 180,000 people of the Sika ethnic group on Flores island in East Nusa Tenggara province, Indonesia. It is notable for being one of the few languages which contain a non-allophonic labiodental flap. It shows evidence of having a Papuan (non-Austronesian) substratum.

The Sika language has at least three recognized dialects:

- *Sikka Natar* dialect, which is generally perceived in the region to be the most refined and most prestigious of the Sika speech variety.
- *Sara Krowe* dialect, spoken in the central hills of Sika speaking people.
- *Ata Tana 'Ai* or *Sara Tana 'Ai* dialect, used by both outsiders and insiders to refer to the people and language of the region and it is also used as a ritual language.^[3]

References

1. Sika (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/ski/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)

2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Sika" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/lan guoid/id/sika1262>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.

3. Darrell T. Tryon (1995). *Comparative Austronesian Dictionary: An Introduction to Austronesian Studies*. Walter de Gruyter. ISBN 3-1108-8401-1.

Sika	
Native to	Indonesia
Region	Flores
Ethnicity	Sika
Native speakers	(180,000 cited 1995) ^[1]
Language family	Austronesian <ul style="list-style-type: none">Malayo-Polynesian<ul style="list-style-type: none">Central–Eastern MP<ul style="list-style-type: none">Flores–Lembata<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sika
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	ski
Glottolog	sika1262 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/sika1262) ^[2]

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